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Processing of all orbiters signals upcoming launches

Testing of STEREO on pad leading to Oct. 25 launch



◆ Shuttle Update: In the Vehicle Assembly Building, the external tank scheduled to fly with Discovery was

mated to the solid rocket boosters. Technicians are completing closeouts in preparation for orbiter Discovery to be mated to the tank, designated ET-123, on Nov. 1.

Technicians continue performing post-landing inspections on orbiter **Atlantis** and are nearly finished with the review of the thermal protection system. The orbiter boom sensor system is scheduled to be removed from the payload bay on Saturday.

On **Endeavour**, work continues on the orbiter boom sensor system manipulator positioning mechanism. The mechanisms serve as the pedestals that hold the boom in place in the payload bay when it is not in use. The shoulder pedestal installation began on Monday.

♦ ELV Update: STEREO is at Pad 17-B atop the Boeing Delta II rocket. The spacecraft was moved from Astrotech to the launch pad on Oct. 11 as scheduled.

Functional testing of the twin observatories is under way. A compatibility test with the Deep Space Network on Oct 13 was successful.

The Delta II Flight Program Verification, a complete integrated electrical and mechanical test with STEREO and the rocket, took place on Monday. This involves a launch

countdown (minus count) and the launch vehicle flight events (plus count). The spacecraft is scheduled to be encapsulated in the fairing on Thursday.

- Caring & Sharing Combined We Make A Difference — If you have not already contributed to the Combined Federal Campaign, please log into WebTADS and make your donation right away. You will automatically be entered into this week's Incentive Prize Drawing for a \$75 gift certificate to the NASA Exchange. After you access the site, you can search the many international, national and local charities and make your final selections. You can get more information on this year's campaign by logging on to http://cfc.ksc.nasa.gov. If you have any questions, contact your unit coordinator or key solicitor.
- Crew Shares Mission Experiences The STS-115 crew is currently scheduled to be at KSC on Oct. 30. Their presentation to employees is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. in the Training Auditorium.



■ Halloween Guidelines At Work — In preparation for Halloween, all personnel are asked to abide by the

following:

- Face painting must allow for 100percent recognition of the individual – no full face masks.
- Weapons (to include toys) will

- not be carried by any individual.
- Do not dress in costumes that depict terrorists, or can be interpreted as real or hostile, or display/carry fake bombs or guns.
- Employees must wear their identification badge at all times.

We encourage everyone to enjoy Halloween but we must continue to be vigilant and avoid situations that could be misinterpreted by those who are responsible for providing security at KSC and CCAFS. Your cooperation is appreciated.



■ The Book Fair Is Here — Books make excellent gifts for the holidays! Times and locations

of the book fair are as follows:

- SSPF Café today
- HQ Café Oct. Wednesday through Friday.

In addition, Mike Mullane will be here at KSC on Oct. 17 to sign his books *Riding Rockets* and *Do Your Ears Pop in Space* from 10 to 10:30 a.m. in the HQ Lobby and from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the MFF.

■ **Did You Know?** The KSC "Stress Out Day" is Thursday! This will be a day for KSC employees to learn about and participate in services, activities and programs between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the O&C Building Mission Briefing Room to "get the stress out."

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday. Deadlines are 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to Anita.Barrett@jbosc.ksc.nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 321-867-2815. Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown-toc.html